Application No. 09/831,026
Amdt. dated September 8, 2003
Reply to Office Action of June 6, 2003
Docket No. 6502-1016

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

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Page 3, replace the paragraph beginning on line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

--In this specification, unless the context clearly indicates to the contrary, the terms "float", "floatable" and "floating", are to be understood as meaning that the applicator engagement device is only slightly submerged and in large part lies on top of the fluid surface.—

Page 5, replace the paragraph beginning on line 12 with the following amended paragraph:

--The support may be made of a plastics plastic material having a cellular nature, such that the air trapped in the cells contributes to the buoyancy thereof. The cells may be small to inhibit the entrapped air in the cells from escaping if the device is tilted at an angle to the containers longitudinal axis.—

Page 8, replace the paragraph beginning on line 23 and bridging pages 8 and 9 with the following amended paragraph:

--The float 10, which is a plastics plastic moulding, comprises a peripheral ring 16 which is of inverted "U"-shape in section and faces downwardly and has a lip 17. The ring 16 is spanned by three equi-spaced flexible arms 22 radiating from a central engagement ring 24 to join the ring 16 at its top edge. The arms 22 are narrow so that the area circumscribed by the ring 16 is substantially open to permit paint to pass therethrough.

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The engagement ring 24 is sized to permit a stirrer, such as a paddle 25 to be inserted therethrough into the bucket 12 to stir the paint 14 without the need to remove the float 10 from the bucket 12. The engagement ring 24 is substantially circular and is located centrally or co-axially within the ring 16.--